

A Department of the Board of Supervisors

Accuracy. Transparency. Oversight.

Tabulation Security









Maricopa County upgraded our 25-year-old tabulation equipment in 2019. This new equipment includes features designed to improve efficiency and security over the tabulation process. It counts ballots faster and comes with a new ballot style where voters mark ovals. The equipment is federally and state certified by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, Arizona Secretary of State, and the nationally accredited Voting System Test Laboratory.



Logic & Accuracy Tests

Prior to an election, we test 100% of all tabulators and accessible voting devices.



Independent Hand Count

During federal elections, the political parties perform a statistically significant hand count audit of results.



Post-Election Check

After every election, our team performs a post-election accuracy test on equipment as a final check.



Onsite Tabulation | Election Day Only

Used on Election Day at all voting locations in federal elections, Vote Center tabulators count ballots onsite to keep a record of votes cast at each location. Results are printed on receipt paper and are stored on two separate, encrypted memory cards. The memory cards must be programmed together at the Ballot Tabulation Center, and the tabulator will only work if both memory cards inside are programmed together. The Vote Center tabulators only accept Election Day ballots and cannot read early ballots or provisional ballots.

Central Count Tabulation & Security

The vast majority of ballots in Maricopa County are counted on Central Count equipment located at the Maricopa County Elections facility. In federal elections, ballots voted on Election Day are counted by precinct-based tabulators located inside the Vote Center.



Restricted Access

Access is restricted to those with a job responsibility or direct oversight of tabulation.



Political Party Oversight

During tabulation, party representatives and observers are present, providing oversight.



Red Pens Only

Only red pens are allowed in the Ballot Tabulation center, as equipment cannot read red ink.



No Internet Connections

Access is restricted to those with a job responsibility or direct oversight of tabulation.



Visible Wiring

Visible wiring shows how tabulation equipment is routed directly to a secure server, which is behind glass and on display for public view.



Monitored 24-7

Cameras stream live 24-7 at Elections. Maricopa.gov

